E-Worksheets Instructions Manual



Alabama Sentencing Commission 300 Dexter Avenue, Suit 2-230 Montgomery, AL 36104 334.954.5096

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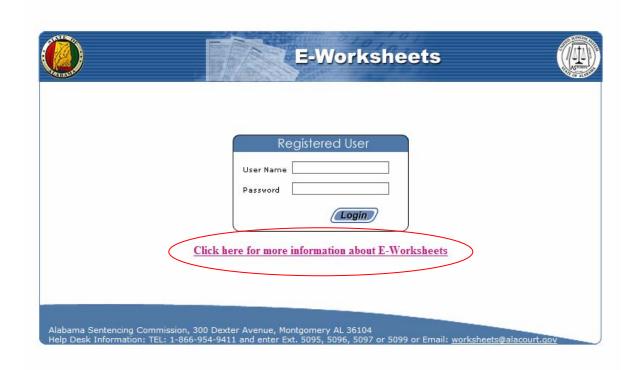
Introduction

The electronic worksheets application (E-Worksheets) is a web-based tool designed to assist judges, district attorneys, probation officers, and whomever the judge may designate in completing the worksheets in applicable cases. This application, which is designed to replace the manual forms and reduce the time needed to complete and submit the worksheet and sentencing information, will be available for those users who are designated by the judge to complete the worksheets. Only the judge, district attorney, probation officers and individuals designated by the judge will be authorized to use the E-Worksheets application.

For those who are not designated as official worksheet preparers, the option is available for completing nonofficial worksheets online. The log-on page has a link <u>Click here for more information about E-Worksheets</u> that will allow non-registered users to choose from the three different worksheets (drugs, property, and personal). These worksheets have the same interactive functionality, however, the system does not save the information to the Sentencing Commission's database as the official record.

Getting Started

If you are officially designated by a judge to complete the worksheets, you will need to obtain a username and password to log into the E-Worksheets application. To register, go to http://worksheets.alacourt.gov and click on the Click here for more information about E-Worksheets link.

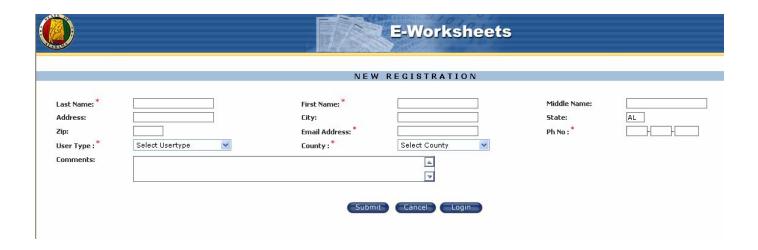


Click on the link Request a new user account.



New Registration

Complete the entire form and click Submit. An email will be sent to the Alabama Sentencing Commission requesting a new user account. You will receive an email with your username and password once your account has been activated.

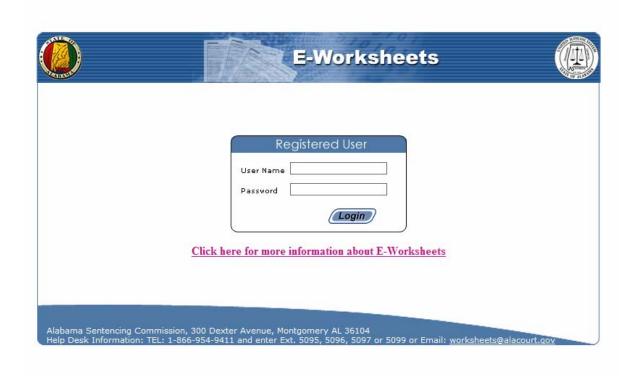


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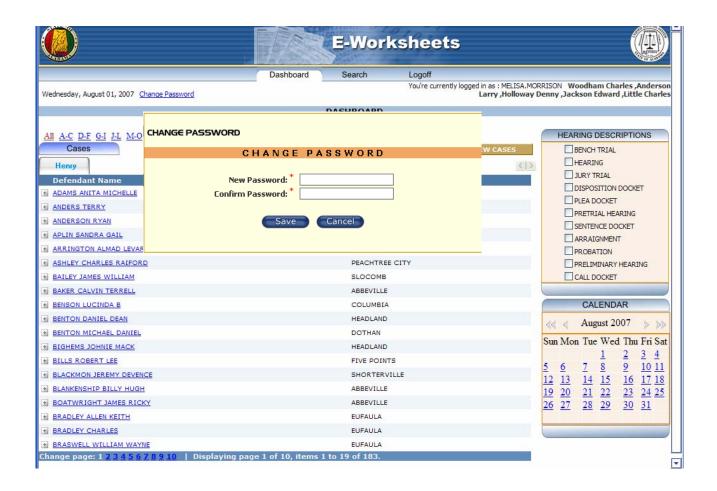
Logging into E-Worksheets for Designated Worksheet Preparers

Once you enter the web address http://worksheets.alacourt.gov, the default screen is the log-in page.

- 1. Enter your username.
- 2. Enter your password.
- 3. Click Login.

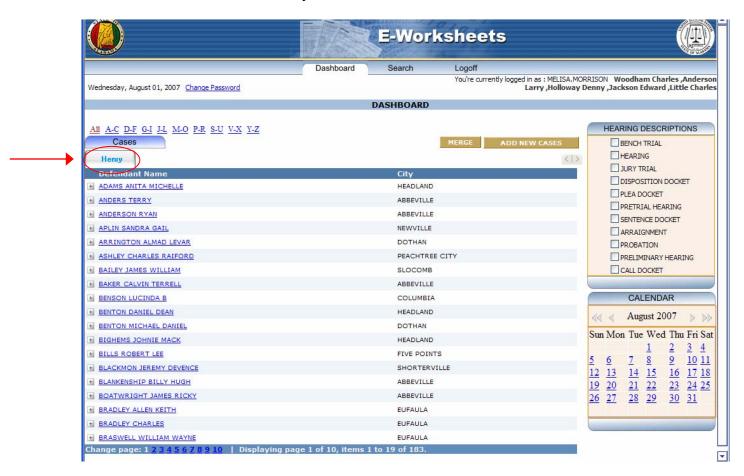


At the time of your first login, you will be prompted to change your password. You may choose to change your generic password to a more meaningful password that you can easily remember. *Please remember your Password because it is encrypted in our database and we cannot retrieve it for you.* If you do happen to forget your password, contact us and we can assign you a new password.



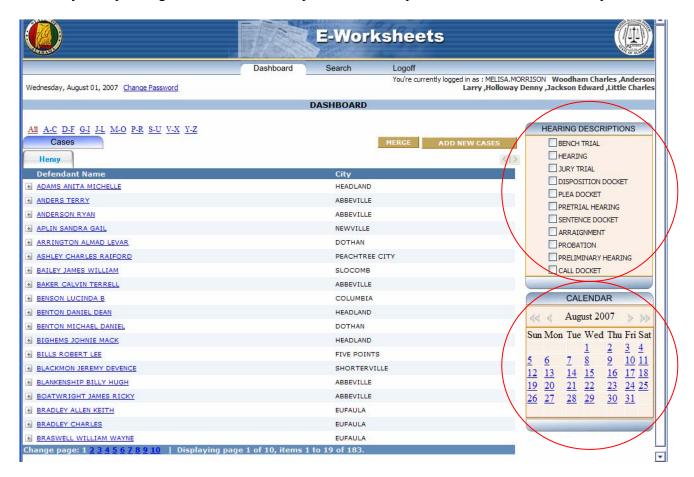
The Dashboard

After logging in, you will see what is called the Dashboard. The Dashboard is a listing of pending felony cases filed for each defendant, listed alphabetically by the defendant's last name. Based on your username, which is associated with a particular judge and his/her jurisdiction, you will only be able to see cases filed for the county(ies) of that circuit. The county tab(s) is located at the top of the defendant's listing. If multiple county tabs are present, click on each tab to see cases filed within that county.



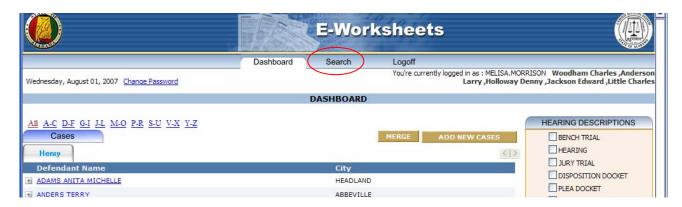
Calendar

To narrow down the list of felony cases filed on the Dashboard, you can choose a Hearing Description from the list and click on a date from the calendar. The Dashboard will only load pending cases filed with that particular description on the date chosen from your selected criteria.

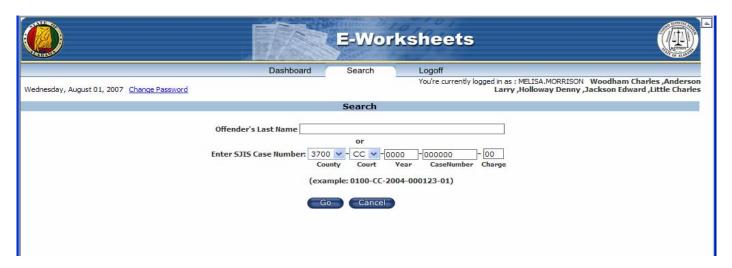


Search

To search for a defendant, click on the Search tab located next to the Dashboard tab.

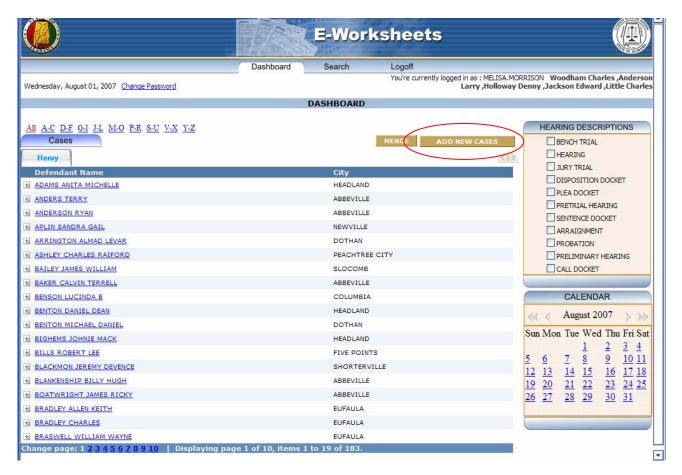


You can search by a defendant's last name or a specific casenumber.



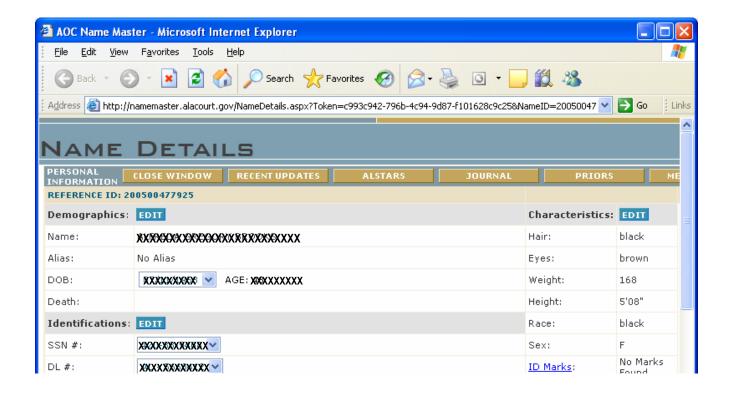
Adding a Case to the Dashboard

If a defendant is not listed on the Dashboard, you can manually add him/her by adding a new casenumber. From the Dashboard, click on the button Add New Cases. Type in the casenumber following the example stated. Once the casenumber has been successfully added to the Dashboard, the defendant's name will appear in alphabetical order by last name.



Step 1: Collecting Information to Complete the Worksheet

The first step in completing a worksheet is to collect all pertinent information related to your defendant. This information includes prior criminal history, sentencing information, youthful offender or juvenile adjudications, and pre-/post-sentence investigation reports. This information is available through E-Worksheets by clicking on the defendant's name. A new window will appear called Name Details. This site is site in the Administrative Office of Courts' NameMaster application. From this screen, click on the Priors button to view charges for a particular defendant listed by county. This information reflects prior convictions contained in AOC and CJIS computer systems. It may not include all convictions, such as those found through an NCIC search.



Youthful Offender and Juvenile Cases

To view youthful offender or juvenile delinquency adjudications, click on the YO Cases and JU Cases buttons. These buttons are only available after clicking on the Priors button located in NameMaster. The information provided is confidential and available only for purposes of completing the worksheets. These records may not be released for the general public and unauthorized distribution of this information is a criminal offense.



Electronic Pre-Sentence Investigation Reports

Pre-sentence or post-sentence investigation reports (PSI) prepared by probation and parole officers are available through E-Worksheets. This report contains details of the offense committed. To view an electronic PSI, click on the E-PSI button.



Additional Information about a Casenumber

Information regarding a casenumber is available by clicking on the casenumber. A new window will appear which includes another site in what the Administrative Office of Courts refers to as V2 Alacourt.



Step 2: Viewing Cases Filed for a Defendant

Click on the plus sign located to the left of the defendant's name.



Information regarding that particular defendant is expanded to display the case or cases filed. The information displayed is:

- 1. Casenumber
- 2. Filing Date
- 3. Judge's Initials (JID)
- 4. Worksheet Status
 - a. Not Started The worksheets have not been completed.
 - b. In Progress The worksheets have been partially completed
 - c. Completed The worksheets have been completed and saved.
- 5. Summary The Summary page for both worksheet recommendations.
- 6. DNA Records (if available)



You will also notice a plus sign beside each Casenumber. By clicking the plus sign, it will expand to display information regarding that particular case. The information displayed is:

- 1. Offense at Filing (Literal)
- 2. Statute
- 3. Type (Felony)
- 4. Classification (A, B, or C)
- 5. Worksheet the specific worksheet that the offense belongs to or if it is a non-worksheet offense
- 6. Score most serious offense score for a worksheet offense
- 7. Punishment for a non-worksheet offense, the statutory punishment range
- 8. Yellow icon document clicking the icon will take you to the worksheet stated in the worksheet column



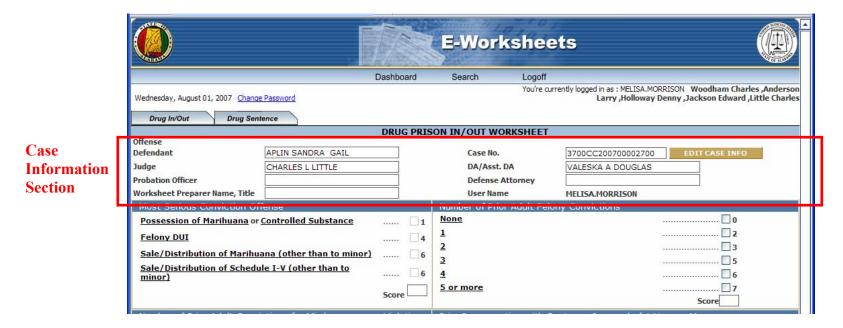
Step 3: Completing the In/Out Worksheet

By clicking on the icon from the Dashboard for a worksheet offense, the application will display the In/Out Worksheet to be completed, followed by the Sentence Length worksheet.

The first item to complete is the Case Information Section, located in the first section of the In/Out worksheet. The Case Information Section contains:

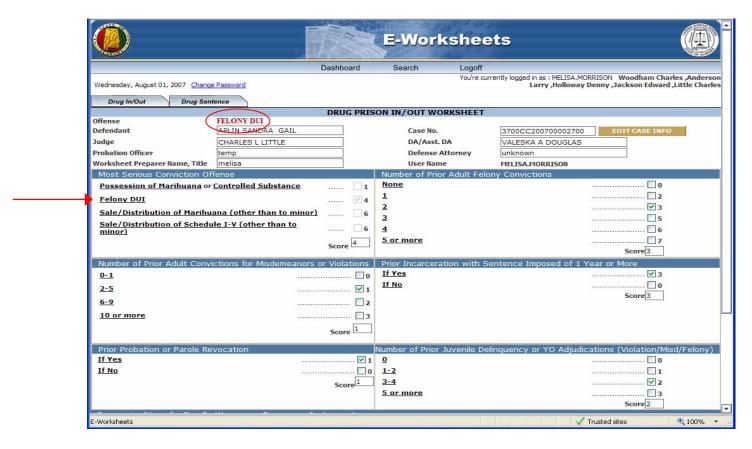
- 1. Offense the most serious offense will be displayed after you make a selection in the Most Serious Conviction Offense factor
- 2. Defendant's Name displayed automatically
- 3. Judge displayed automatically
- 4. Probation Officer type in the Probation Officer's name
- 5. Worksheet Preparer, Title
- 6. Case No. displayed automatically
- 7. DA/Asst. DA select a DA/ADA from the list or select Other to type in a name not listed
- 8. Defense Attorney type in the Defense Attorney's name

The case information section is automatically populated from the information entered by the Court Clerk. If you need to edit this information, click the Edit Case Info button.



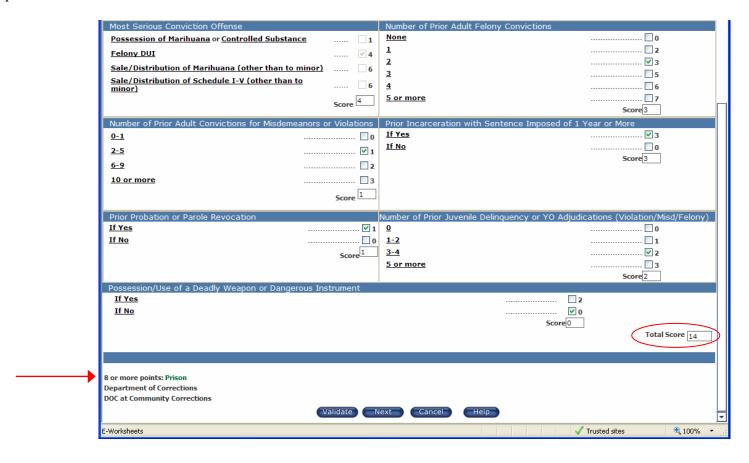
Completing the Factors on the In/Out Worksheet

There are multiple factors contained on each In/Out worksheet. Read each factor carefully and make your selection by clicking on the check box located next to the score for each item. The score selected will automatically populate the score box for each factor. The only exception is the first factor, the Most Serious Conviction Offense. *You must click on the offense located in the Most Serious Conviction Offense section rather than the check box to make your selection.* The offense selected will then be displayed in red in the Offense listing of the Case Information Section.



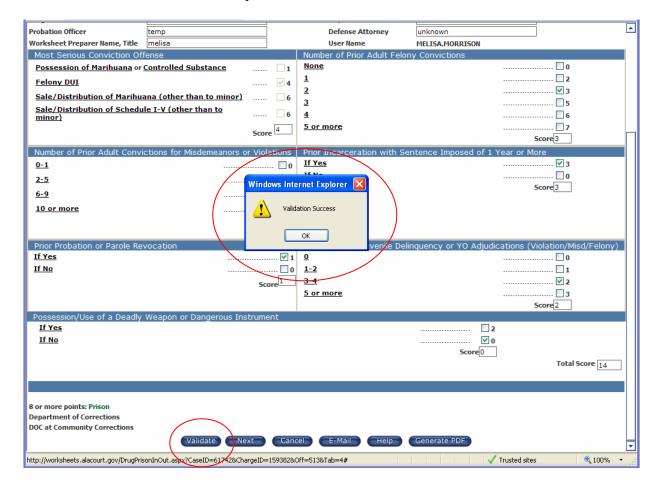
Recommendation of the In/Out Worksheet

After completing all of the factors on the In/Out worksheet, the application will automatically add the scores and display one recommendation based on the total score value. The non-prison or prison recommendation will be displayed in the bottom left-hand corner of the page, including possible sentencing options.



The next step is to click the Validate button. This button will check for completion of all items and factors on the worksheet. If the application finds information not completed, a message box will appear requesting that you complete those factors. The application will not allow you to move forward until all factors are selected. If the message box appears stating "Validation Success", click the Next button to take you to the Sentence Length worksheet.

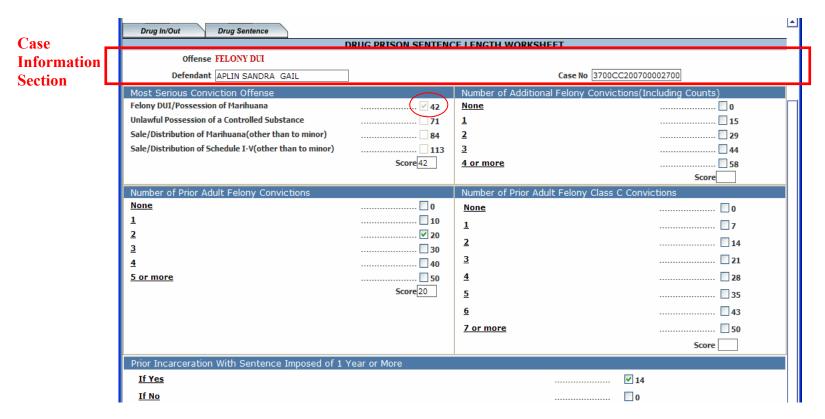
The Help button displays the detailed directions of how to complete each factor.



Completing the Factors on the Sentence Length Worksheet

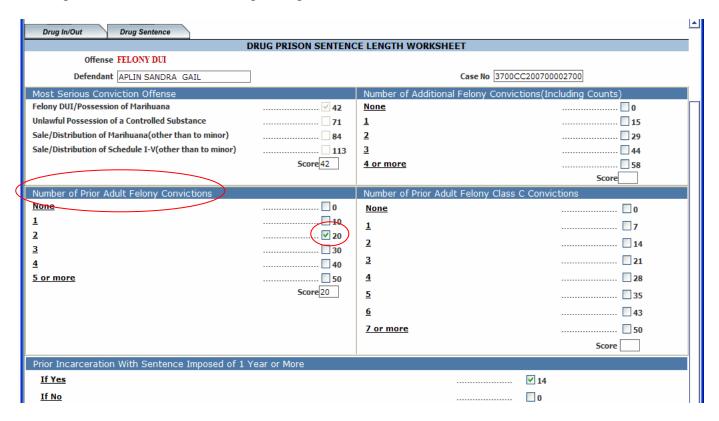
There are multiple factors contained on each Sentence Length worksheet. Read each factor carefully and make your selection by clicking on the check box located next to the score for each item. The score selected will automatically populate the score box for each factor.

Included in the Case Information Section of the Sentence Length worksheet is the most serious offense, defendant's name, and casenumber. These fields have already been populated and require no further entry by you. In addition, the Most Serious Conviction Offense factor is automatically selected based on your selection from the In/Out worksheet.



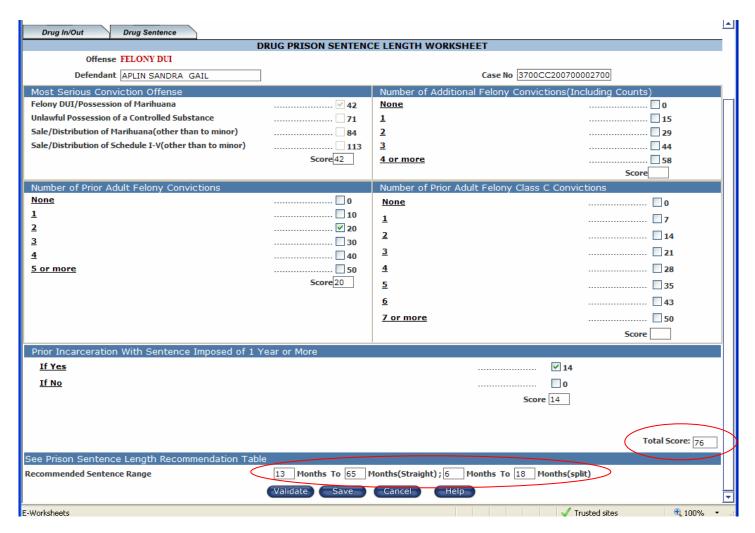
Continue making your selection for each factor.

NOTE: If the exact same factor is on both worksheets (In/Out and Sentence Length), the score selected from the In/Out worksheet will automatically populate on the Sentence Length worksheet with the corresponding score.



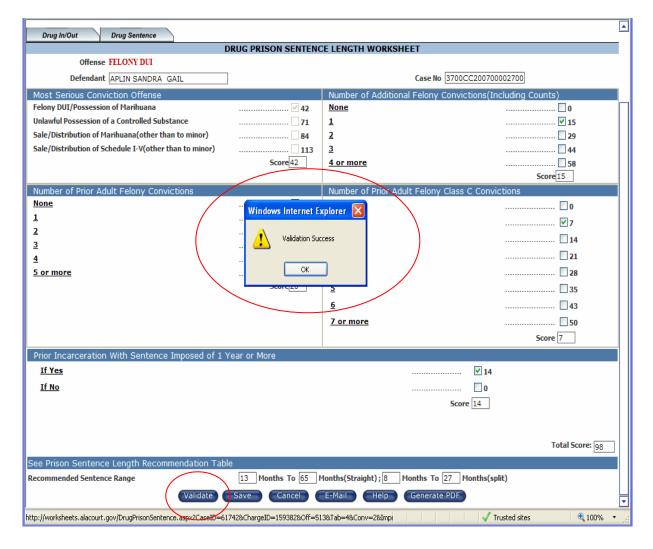
Recommendation of the Sentence Length Worksheet

After completing all of the factors on the Sentence Length worksheet, the application will automatically add the scores and display the Recommended Sentence Range based on the total score value. The sentence range for a straight prison sentence (in months) and a split sentence (in months) will be displayed.



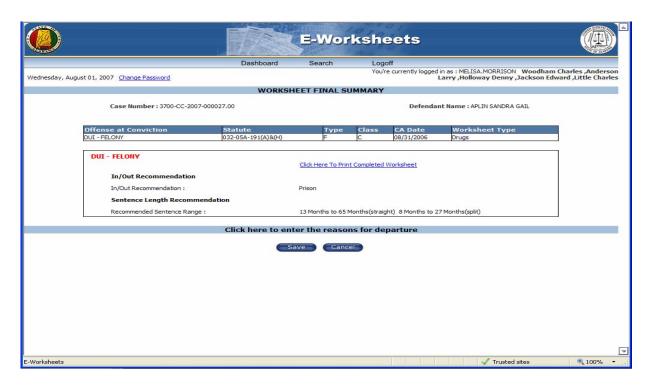
The next step is to click the Validate button. This button will check for completion of all items and factors on the worksheet. If the application finds information not completed, a message box will appear requesting that you complete those factors. The application will not allow you to move forward until all factors are selected. If the message box appears stating "Validation Success", click the Next button to take you to the Summary page.

The Help button displays the detailed directions of how to complete each factor.



Summary Page

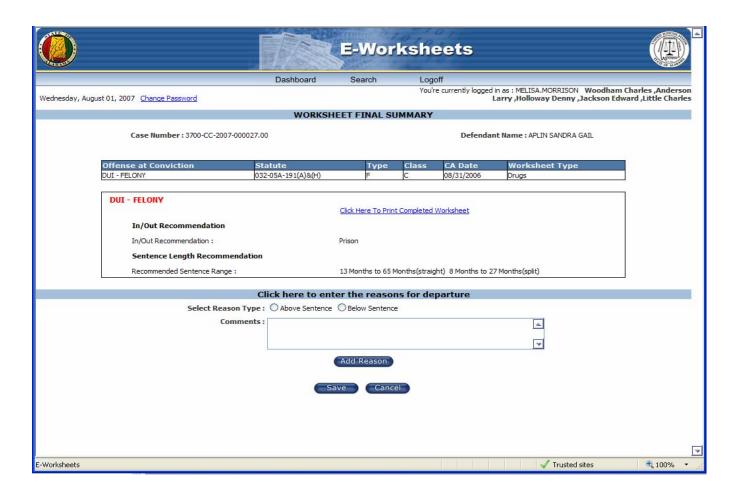
The last page is the Summary page that displays the recommendations from both the In/Out and Sentence Length worksheets. The casenumber (or multiple casenumbers if combined for one sentencing event), defendant's name, and detailed information about the most serious conviction offense are included on the Summary page. Review the given recommendations and click Save. The application will take you back to the Dashboard for you to continue with next case.



After consideration and review of the recommendations, if a judge decides to sentence outside of the recommended sentence range, you have the option on the Summary page to provide a reason for departure as stated by the judge or select from examples in the drop-down box. The reasons for departure are optional but will be extremely helpful to the Sentencing Commission in determining future modifications. There are two reasons for departure options: (1) type in a reason in the comments box or (2) select a reason type and reason(s) for departure from the drop down box.

- 1. Select Reason Type
 - a. Above Sentence Reason for sentencing above the worksheet recommendation
 - b. Below Sentence Reason for sentencing below the worksheet recommendation
- 2. Select a Reason for Departure

To add multiple reasons for departure, click on a reason from the drop-down list and click the button Add Reason.

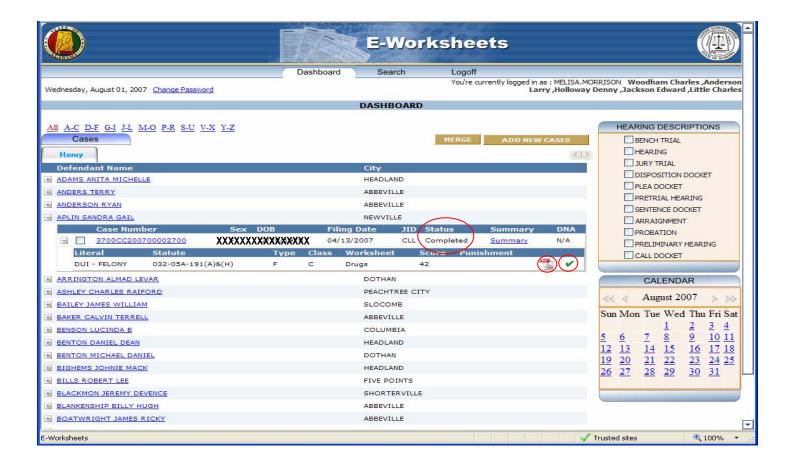


NOTE: In some circumstances, you have the option of completing multiple worksheets. If multiple worksheets are completed for a case, i.e. the Drug and Property worksheet, the recommendations from both worksheets will be displayed on the Summary page. At this point you will choose a recommendation from the list by selecting the radio button [O] located next to the offense and click Save.

Completion of the Worksheets

When both worksheets have been completed for a case, the Dashboard will update the status of the worksheets. The Worksheet Status column will state "Completed" and a green check mark will be displayed.

An icon will now be displayed on the offense line indicating that a pdf form is available for this particular case that includes a snapshot of both the completed In/Out worksheet and the completed Sentence length worksheet. You can save this pdf form to your computer, print this form, or email the form as an attachment to other parties involved with this case.



Merging Multiple Cases to Create One Sentencing Event

To merge multiple cases for one sentencing event, click the square boxes located next to the casenumbers you would like to merge. After you have selected the cases, a green check mark will appear. Now click the Merge button located at the top of the Dashboard. This will merge the cases selected into one sentencing event.



After merging multiple cases, those selected will be highlighted with a blue shade to indicate the cases you have merged. Click the + sign located next to each casenumber to expand the case information. You must expand the information for each case merged to determine the most serious offense at conviction. Choose the most serious offense and click the icon located for that offense to complete the worksheet.



Non-Designated Users

For those who are not designated as official worksheet preparers, the option is available for completing nonofficial worksheets online. The log-on page has a link <u>Click here for more information about E-Worksheets</u> that will allow non-registered users to choose from the three different worksheets (drugs, property, and personal). These worksheets have the same interactive functionality, however, they do not save the information to the Sentencing Commission's database as the official record.

